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McManus Announces Passage of Beach Maintenance Bill

(LANSING) – Measures that will amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Act to allow for the conduct of beach maintenance activities passed the Senate today, state Senator Michelle McManus, announced.

“I am pleased to announce the passage of this very important legislation,” McManus, R-Lake Leelanau, said. “Those who reside and vacation on the beaches of our Great Lakes now have the ability to properly groom the beaches in its time of need.”

HB 4257 provides for the immediate allowance of certain beach maintenance activities such as mowing, raking and leveling of sand on Great Lakes shoreline and will provide for removal of vegetation without having to obtain a permit in two designated pilot areas also along Great Lakes shoreline of the state. The DEQ will retain important oversight over these practices to ensure key environmental areas will be adequately protected.

“I would like to thank my colleagues who all worked diligently to ensure these measures passed for the health of our beaches,” McManus said. “Specifically, my good friends Senator Jim Barcia and Representative David Palsrok, as well as the committee members, came together in a bi-partisan fashion for the good of Michigan’s environment.”

HB 4257 now moves back to the House for a concurrence vote.